

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S E C R E T

COUNTRY Hungary

REPORT

SUBJECT

Nitro-Chemical Plant, Balatonfűzfő

DATE DISTR.

29 March 1957

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REFERENCES

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED
PLEASE ROUTE

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE & DATE ACQ.

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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a report on the Nitro-Chemical Plant in Balatonfűzfő. The report contains information on the working schedule, working procedures, and products of the factory.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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Economic/Military/ScientificThe Nitro-Chemical Works, BALATONFUZFO.

The Nitrokemia Ipartelepek (Nitro-Chemical Industry) is located at BALATONFUZFO in VESZPREM Province (full address not available). It covers an area greater than a square kilometre and employs several thousand workers.

2. [] in the works one section was manufacturing nitro-glycerine. Located within the works was a paper mill and [] also [] cellulose.

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3. [] one section of the works employed 20-30 men. This contained 6 vats each of about $\frac{1}{2}$ cu. m. Raw materials, one of which [] was cresol were poured into the first vat. There was a continuous flow under gravity at a rate [] less than 10 litres/hour. The end product was a thick yellowish liquid which was tapped off at intervals and taken to two "pressing machines" in an adjacent room whence it emerged as a yellow powder. It was estimated that about 20 50 Kgm. drums were filled every 8 hour shift from the two machines. The product in these drums was ready for use. The temperature of the material in the vats (not known whether these were supplied with heat) was about 40°C; if it rose to 60°C the contents of the vats were drowned with water. The end product produced a yellow stain on the skin which persisted for about 2 weeks, but was non-corrosive. If it was spilt on the floor, which occurred frequently during the filling of the 50 Kgm. drums, no precautions were taken to prevent it being trodden on. Smoking was permitted only at a few prescribed places in the works

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4. The management circulated the [] that the end product was an

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/insecticide.....

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insecticide for agricultural purposes, but [redacted]

[redacted] thought that it was an explosive. [redacted]

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5. The factory worked three 8-hour shifts, [redacted]

[redacted] assumed that all move-

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ment of products was carried out at night. Underground storage is available at the factory and [redacted] this was all flooded at the outbreak^{25X1} of the Revolution, before the arrival of Russian troops on 5th or 6th^{25X1} November, 1956, to guard the works. [redacted] production of the entire factory stopped shortly after this owing to shortage of coal.

6. The one product of the factory which [redacted]

was certainly not an explosive was PLAXITE - described [redacted] as an un-^{25X1} breakable glass, soft enough to be scratched, and presumably similar to perspex.

7. There were stringent security precautions at the works, and workers passes were endorsed every month with one or more letters; without the endorsements the passes were invalid. The serial number of a pass issued in July 1956 was above 9,600.

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